

ligands, bacterial, viral, and parasite antigens, monoclonal antibodies and gene therapy compounds.

50. A method of diagnosis of pathological conditions in the human or animal body said method comprising administering to said body a diagnostically effective amount polypeptide dendrimers as claimed in claim 1, as unimolecular carrier of at least one bioactive or marker molecule covalently linked at the surface or entrapped into the same, where the marker molecule is selected in the group comprising an aminoacid, a peptide, a protein, a nucleotide, an oligonucleotide, a lipid, a saccharide, an oligosaccharide, a bacterial, viral, and parasite antigen, an antibody and a small organic molecule and their synthetic analogues and derivatives.

51. A method of generating an image of a human or animal body said method comprising administering to said body a diagnostically effective amount polypeptide dendrimers as claimed in claim 1, as unimolecular carrier of at least one marker molecule covalently linked at the surface or entrapped into the same, where the marker molecule is selected in the group comprising diagnostic imaging contrast agents.

#### REMARKS

Applicant has amended the claims to conform to U.S. requirements. The amendment to the claims does not introduce new matter. Entry of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
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APPENDIX

48. (New) A diagnostic or therapeutic composition comprising a polypeptide dendrimers as claimed in claim 1, as unimolecular carriers of bioactive or marker molecules covalently linked at the surface of the same or entrapped into the same, together with at least one pharmaceutical carrier or excipient.

49. (New) A method of therapy of the human or animal body said method comprising administering to said body a therapeutically effective amount of a polypeptide dendrimers as claimed in claim 1, as unimolecular carrier of at least one bioactive molecule covalently linked at the surface of the same or entrapped into the same, where the bioactive molecule is selected in the group comprising aminoacids, peptides, proteins, nucleotides, oligonucleotides, lipids, saccharides, oligosaccharides, drugs, antibiotics, antiviral and anticancer drugs, cellular receptor ligands, bacterial, viral, and parasite antigens, monoclonal antibodies and gene-therapy compounds.

50. (New) A method of diagnosis of pathological conditions in the human or animal body said method comprising administering to said body a diagnostically effective amount polypeptide dendrimers as claimed in claim 1, as unimolecular carrier of at least one bioactive or marker molecule covalently linked at the surface or entrapped into the same, where the marker molecule is selected in the group comprising an aminoacid, a peptide, a protein, a nucleotide, an oligonucleotide, a lipid, a saccharide, an oligosaccharide, a bacterial, viral, and parasite antigen, an antibody and a small organic molecule and their synthetic analogues and derivatives.

51. (New) A method of generating an image of a human or animal body said method comprising administering to said body a diagnostically effective amount polypeptide dendrimers as claimed in claim 1, as unimolecular carrier of at least one marker molecule covalently linked at the surface or entrapped into the same, where the marker molecule is selected in the group comprising diagnostic imaging contrast agents.